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The Students of Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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Jon Butcher Axis Closes Winter Weekend with a Strong Performance

by Jack Spadaro
Newspeak Staff

Winter Weekend was brought to an exciting close by the Jon Butcher Axis this past Saturday night. In a three hour concert, headliners the Jon Butcher Axis followed two decent opening acts, the unknown Poison Dollys, an all-female heavy-rock troupe, and the comeback-trail Kneetremblers, formerly the well-known Foghat.

The Harrington Auditorium crowd, of only fair size, was nevertheless quite vocal and demanding. Both the Kneetremblers and the Jon Butcher Axis presented encores, to the crowd's delight.

The Jon Butcher Axis, a Boston band, has been a topic of national attention and has been nominated for a Grammy Award, in tonight's contest, in recognition of their latest album.

The sound for the Axis was clean, heavy, and consistent. Jon Butcher's singing, though not great, was clearly heard throughout most of the show, and naturally, he relied on his respected instrumental ability and let the

guitar do most of the talking. The crowd was impressed by his antics a-la Jimi Hendrix. His solo style was definitely reflecting a Hendrix influence, with what seemed to be Jeff Beck-like licks thrown in for good measure.

The style was progressive acid blues, with liberal amounts of sax, boards, drums, and bass (5-string and fretless). It is clear that Jon Butcher has collected a talented threesome to back him up.

The Kneetremblers were no slouches either, as they pumped out the hard driving blues rock tunes that Foghat was famous for. "Fool for the City" was their second selection, and "Slow Ride," which got the crowd really wild was their final regular offering. Their performance was laced with tunes from their latest album, the first step of their attempted comeback.

The Poison Dollys, a leotard-and-leather clad foursome of females who opened the evening at 8:30, had a little to offer in their brand of Van Halen-style heavy metal. The instruments were decent, the singing okay, but the sound was unclear. The small crowd

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Jon Butcher whales on his guitar for Winter Weekend.

PHOTO BY BRIAN TEAGUE

WPI Newspeak

The student newspaper of Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Volume 14, Number 5

Tuesday, February 25, 1986



WPI Searches for New Dean of Students

by Jeffrey S. Goldmeer
News Editor

With the promotion of Dean Bernard Brown to Vice President of Student Affairs last December, the position of Dean of Students has since remained vacant. And until a replacement is found Brown will continue to carry on his old duties as well as his new ones.

Therefore a search committee was formed to find and evaluate candidates for the job. The committee is made up of ten people; four faculty members, two members of the Division of Student Affairs, and four students. The faculty members are: Prof. Robert Long II (physics), Prof. Patrick Dunn (humanities), Prof. Kenneth Scott (mechanical engineering), and Philip Grebinar (physical education). The two

members of the Division of Student Affairs are: Michelle Hannigan, Associate Director of Admissions, the committee chairperson, and Susan Theisen, a counselor at the Student Counseling Center. The student members of the committee are: Pearl Lin ('86), Joyce Kline ('88), Paul Coggin ('88), and Scott Burke ('86). The committee's advisor is Roger Albrecht, Director of Personnel.

To date the committee has narrowed the field of applicants down to four, they are: Thomas J. Schoeck, James R. Tewey, David F. Thompson, and Janet Begin Richardson. These four came out of a pool of over 60 initial applicants, who were from across the country.

Dr. Schoeck visited the campus on

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Trustee Committee On Academic Planning and Student Affairs Holds Winter Meeting

by Jim Goodell
Editor-in-Chief

Last Friday, members of the board of trustees met with administrators, faculty, and student leaders to discuss a wide variety of topics affecting the institute and student life. The assembly was the winter trustee meeting of the Committee on Academic Planning and Student Affairs. The meeting revealed an optimistic outlook for the inflated student to faculty ratio found in some departments, but gave reasons for concern in the areas of admissions and enrollment, financial aid, and student life.

The Academic Planning and Student Affairs Committee of WPI's board of trustees is a recently formed committee charged with overseeing the administration of various programs such as admissions, financial aid, academic accreditation, and a fraternity task force, all of which affect students and student life. The committee was set up through the efforts of President Strauss and the board, and gives the trustees a more integral role in guiding specific programs of the institute. As was discussed at the meeting, the committee is responsible for overseeing a great deal, but intends only to get involved with those programs/policies needing improvement.

Admissions and Enrollment

The meeting began shortly after 10:00 a.m. After the approval of the meeting minutes for the fall meeting and introductions, Robert Voss, Executive Director of Admis-

sions and Financial Aid, reported on the status of the prospective incoming freshman class. He reported that out of 2301 applicants 1646 have been admitted and that he expects 645 of these to enroll in the fall. According to Voss, the average SAT scores of this year's applicants is up from last year. For this reason, more students have been accepted under the assumption that we are competing with better schools for these students. "There is more overlap with [schools like] M.I.T.," said Voss.

Voss attributes this change in the applicant pool partially to the way in which these students were reached. There was a shift in emphasis from individual interviews to group meetings held at central locations around the country. With this process, students will base their decision to apply more on standardized measures (SAT scores) rather than individual background. (i.e. Students with 490 verbal 580 math or lower SAT scores might not apply regardless of other factors.)

While there is a shift to higher SAT scores, Voss noted that there is a broader cross section of students this year.

His predictions for the future were rather dim. Based on the prediction that the number of high school graduates will drop from 63,000 in 1986 to 52,000 in 1990, Voss predicts the number of applications to drop to 1736 in 1990 from 2301 this year. A discussion concerning ways to deal with this situation followed. It was suggested that our share of the college student market could be in-

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Tuition Raised 9% for 1986-'87 On campus costs to exceed \$14,000

by Jeffrey S. Goldmeer
News Editor

In a letter, dated February 24, that is being mailed to parents, President Strauss announced that the cost of tuition and fees for the 1986 - 87 school year will be \$9,820 dollars. This is approximately an increase of nine percent over this year's tuition and fees. Included in this estimate are the Student Social Fee, and the Health Fee, which are both listed in the 1986 - 87 catalog as being \$58 and \$50 dollars respectively.

This will bring the cost of room, board, and tuition to \$13,515 dollars, which does not include any miscellaneous costs, such as books, supplies, and transportation to and

from school.

In his letter, President Strauss cites the reason for the increase in tuition as being the need "to cover the total costs required to maintain the quality of a WPI education". He also goes about thanking numerous off-campus sources for supporting the school.

In closing, Strauss reminds parents that the Office of Financial Aid will do everything that it can to "see that all students have the opportunity to complete their academic programs in spite of increasing costs", and that "a WPI education is the greatest investment you can make in the future of your son or daughter."

Richard W. Lyman to Deliver WPI Commencement Address

Richard W. Lyman, president of the Rockefeller Foundation since 1980 and president emeritus of Stanford University, will deliver the commencement address at Worcester Polytechnic Institute's 118th annual graduation exercises on May 24.

The Rockefeller Foundation is one of the most significant philanthropic organizations in the United States with a record of distinguished achievement in agricultural, population and health sciences; international

relations; equal opportunity, and the arts and humanities.

Before being named to head the Foundation, Dr. Lyman had served for 10 years as the president of Stanford University. A *New York Times* profile commented that he "acquired a national reputation as one of the country's most prominent educator-administrators, providing firm leadership during the time when the university, like

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A heavily iced tree bows to the burden.

PHOTO BY BRIAN TEAGUE

EDITORIAL

What, Financial Aid?

For those of you who have not read the front page yet, there has been an increase in the cost of tuition, room, and board to \$13,515 dollars for the '86-'87 school year. It is labeled as an 8.4% increase over this year's total of \$12,900. Of course the true amount of the increase will depend on where you will live next year, and whether or not you are on the meal plan.

His letter also announced that the Office of Financial Aid will "see that all students have the opportunity to complete their academic programs in spite of increasing costs."

It seems that there are already too many students here at WPI this year who are in need of financial aid, and receive little or none. These students are now wondering how they will afford next year's price, if they are barely managing from week to week now. And now with increased costs, and the reduction of federal student aid (see the February 18 issue of *Newspeak*), it seems that this financial uncertainty will spread to include others. How can one expect the school to make up for this new difference, if it couldn't do it in the past?

The real problem, and answer, may lie in the colleges fund raising policy. To properly understand this you should know a few facts.

This term there are 2424 undergraduate students here at WPI, who each paid the \$8900 dollar tuition this year, that corresponds to a partial income of \$21,573,000 dollars. Next year, the income raised by 2424 students paying the \$9683 dollar tuition (8.8% above last year's tuition) will be approximately \$23,471,592 dollars. This is an increase of over \$1.8 million dollars. Even if you count in inflation, this is still a huge increase.

The other important bit of information to know is that tuition is only 40 to 50 percent of the school's total income. This figure has remained fairly constant throughout the past decade. This information places this year's total school budget at approximately \$47.9 million dollars, and next year's over \$52 million dollars. These figures do not include grants made to the school for specific projects.

This sum may seem a bit extreme, but it is completely justified. It goes to paying the salaries of almost everyone who works on campus, to maintaining the school's grounds and buildings. But it seems incredible that an institution that is able to raise such an enormous amount of money every year — let us not forget the brand new \$2 million dollar athletic field — is unable to raise enough money to help those students who need financial aid.

Is there a reason why the Administration couldn't raise an extra million dollars every year earmarked for use as financial aid?

In the past the Administration has made an effort to listen to the needs of the students here at WPI, why don't they open their ears, and understand the present situation for what it truly is. With costs increasing every year, students who don't receive enough financial aid will be forced to transfer, or leave school permanently.

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY 10:00-12:00 a.m.,
TUESDAY ... 10:00-12:00 a.m., 1:00-3:00 p.m., 6:00-8:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY 10:00-11:00 a.m., 4:00-5:00 p.m.
THURSDAY 10:00-12:00 a.m., 2:00-3:00 p.m.,
FRIDAY 11:00-12:00 a.m., 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Letters Policy

WPI *Newspeak* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters submitted for the publication should be typed (double-spaced) and contain the typed or printed name of the author as well as the author's signature. Letters should contain a phone number for verification. Students submitting letters to the editors should put their class year after their name. Faculty and staff should include their full title. Letters deemed libelous or irrelevant to the WPI community will not be published.

The editors reserve the right to edit letters for correct punctuation and spelling. Letters to the editor are due by 9:00 a.m. on the Friday preceding publication. Send them to WPI Box 2700 or bring them to the *Newspeak* Office, Riley 01.

Commentary articles reflect the opinions of the writer and not necessarily those of *Newspeak*.

Newspeak

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LETTERS

[Editor's Note: These letters are in reply to last week's commentary column "My View From Morgan Fourth" by Joshua Smith.]

With Sympathy in Your Time of Sorrow

Dear Mr. Smith,

It is no surprise you were lonely on Valentine's Day, your idea of a relationship appears to be very superficial. A lasting relationship cannot be based on sex alone. A relationship involves much more, for example, caring and sharing.

Women are not household objects, which is an attitude projected by a few WPI men in articles such as yours. Attitudes like yours make it hard for other men at WPI who don't hold such opinions. After all, it's common for women who read these articles to use them as a basis of their opinion of men here.

When you couple "(m)ore women will attend schools like WPI when more mothers can be seen doing technical work" with "girls could be raffled off . . . Of course, some safeguards would be necessary" such as creating the social disease committee." It appears that your primary intention for women is not in technological fields. Your article gave the impression that a public impregnation office should be established for females in the scientific field, so your progeny would not have pangs of loneliness.

With heartfelt sympathy,
Ann E. Meilus ('88)

Mr. Smith's View Devoid of Feeling

Mr. Smith,

Your view from Morgan Fourth was in very poor taste last week, the following lines in particular:

(1) " . . . They'll (WPI men) drink until they can stand to go home with a Becker girl . . ."

Becker women are people — with feelings — not toys. Nothing makes one human being better than, superior to, or gives one person more right than another. Yet you project an attitude in this line that you think you are above them.

(2) "Girls could be raffled off to any guy who can afford a five dollar raffle ticket . . . I recall hearing something about a slave auction . . . There isn't a big difference . . . Of course, the Social Committee would have to create the Social Disease SubCom-

mittee, etc."

Here it sounds like you think that girls would be happy to be raffled off to any guy for the purpose of procreation, to be used like a slave then recycled (Social Disease implies multiple partners). How devoid of feeling and compassion your idea of male-female relations appears to be. With an attitude such as this it's not surprising you haven't got a girlfriend. Even if you meant these lines in jest, like Swift's "A Modest Proposal," it was very poorly done because it fails to evoke the sympathy of the reader by showing the harsh unjustness of the situation. I sincerely hope your view from Morgan Fourth is just that, and not representative of the freshman male populus.

— A fraction of a fifth,
Karen Stringer ('88)

Where Did Band Parties Go?

Dear Editor,

There was a time in WPI history when a fraternity didn't have a party unless they had a band. Nowadays, if you can find a party with a live band you're pretty lucky. Granted, bands are scarce in the WPI community, and they tend to break up when members graduate, but with the new outcropping of bands from The Battle of the Bands this isn't a problem anymore. The problem is that fraternities aren't allowed to have a cover charge for parties under the new party regulations. One of the guidelines states, "No alcohol is to be sold at any party, nor may any admission be charged [for alcohol] unless a liquor license has been obtained." Now, fraternities can't afford to give away free beer AND pay a band for playing at their party. Bands go for anywhere between \$200 and \$500 a party, depending on how good they are, and fraternities don't have budgets large enough to cover this type of expense.

But nowhere in the guidelines does it say that fraternities can't charge a cover for THE BAND, or that a band, as a separate organization from the fraternity, can't charge a cover for their services. After all, even the Social Committee has a cover charge when they hold an event where a band is present.

So why aren't there band parties anymore? I'm sure I represent a large portion of the WPI community when I say that we'd like to see this change. Just to prove it could be done, last weekend Farnum Street decided to hold their own (registered) band party in Ellsworth 08. No admission was charged, no complaints were registered, and a very successful party resulted without any problems. The band waived their fees because it was their party, but if a party of that magnitude can be held in an Ellsworth apartment, it can be held in any fraternity.

— Tom McCormick ('87)

Soviets Not Trying to Improve Rights Record

To the Cartoonist,

I would like to comment on your opinion on the Soviet Union's improvement of their human rights record. The Soviet Union did not release Jewish dissident Anatoli Scharansky to improve their human rights record. If they wanted to do so, they would already have released Dr. Andrei Sakharov and other dissidents who had expressed their desire to leave the Soviet Union. The true reason they agreed on the exchange was because they

wanted their spies back home and they wanted to send messages to those Soviet spies still captured in the West that they would try anything to rescue them. In other words, the Soviets are telling their captured spies not to talk to the West in order to minimize their security loss. On the other hand the U.S. agreed on this exchange because we wanted to prove to the world that we are good guys. After all the Soviet Union is an evil empire.

— Kenneth W. Choi ('86)

Advertising and Articles Clash

To the Editor,

In the past several issues of *Newspeak*, numerous articles have been printed concerning the changing alcohol policies on the WPI campus.

The February 18 issue included articles entitled "The Changing Pub", "IFC Set to Move on the Prospect of Dry Rush", and an

editorial labeled "Stubborn Students May Stifle Social Opportunities". Yet, in the very same issue there was practically a full-page ad dedicated to Lite Beer from Miller — Are you guys trying to tease us?!

— Kevin Biernacki ('86)
— Mark Fitzgerald ('86)

COMMENTARY

The Whole Story of Infinite Volumes and Mr. Physics

Editor's Note: This is Andy's column for last week. Before he sends us his column, using the Dec-20 electronic mail system, he runs a program to format it correctly. Last week, this program ate his file so here's the "whole story."

by Andy Ferreira
Newspeak staff

Book bags are nifty. Where would we be without them? I, for one, would suffer enormously as my arms would probably be pulled out of their sockets by the books I had to carry.

Book bags are a physical example of a mathematical anomaly — they have a finite surface area, but enclose an infinite volume. I discovered this fact the other day while cleaning out my book bag for the first time in about two months. I found a text book from A term, a candy bar from the summer, a few old homework assignments from Sophomore year (that's my Sophomore year in high school), and what I think are the remains of Jimmy Hoffa.

My bag has one of those handy little pockets on the out-side. In there you can put all sorts of essentials, like pencils, pens and candy bars. Into the body of the bag you can put your books, papers, and racquetball racket. And there is still room!

It is a well established fact that you can put anything in a book bag and you will still have room to put more items in. I think this makes book bags a prime candidate for toxic waste dumps. (It could be argued that anything left in a book bag long enough BECOMES toxic waste, however).

In any case, it would be interesting to make a book bag large enough to admit a person and see just what really goes on behind zipped flaps. Just think of the problems that could be solved — no more overcrowding problems, just put the Earth in a book bag and, viola, we can fit Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Uranus too! I always have something in my apartment that has no place in the whole building — with a book bag I could alleviate the space shortage problem and banish to the bookbag items that don't belong to the book bag.

Of course, book bags aren't the solution to everything in the world. There is one fatal drawback — the weight. Mr. Physics says that mass is conserved or something like that. (The conservation of Massachusetts is another interesting topic we'll have to discuss at a later time.) Don't believe Mr. Physics — he's wrong when it comes to book bags. Suppose you can carry X pounds. Your book bag, regardless of how much is in there, will weigh X + 1 pounds. Even if it is empty (and no self respecting book bag is ever empty — there's always something lurking in the bottom, like cookie crumbs or squirrel hair) the book bag will still be too heavy.

Well, I've reached that point where I decide to stop the article.

A Word From the Cartoonist

by Brian Freeman
Newspeak staff

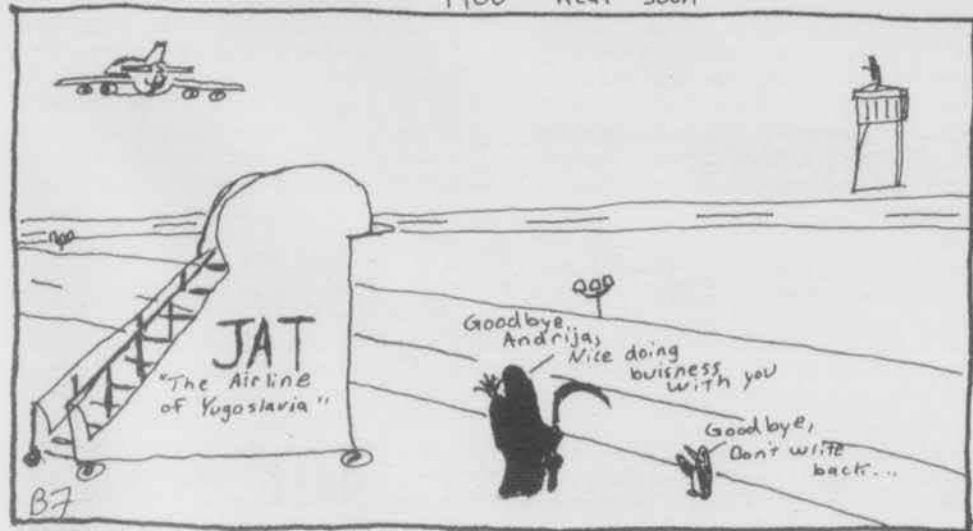
Between the headlines of the new Tylenol scare and the re-election of everyone's favorite autocrat, I came across a less publicized story about the deportation this week of an 86-year old man with a bad heart disease from the U.S. to Turkey. The man, Andrija Artukovic, was a killer responsible for the deaths of more than 700,000 Serbs, Jews, and gypsies in Yugoslavia and neighboring Balkan States. Although not German, he was the governor of the Nazi puppet state of Croatia in World War II and was dubbed "the Butcher of the Balkans." Using false papers, he emigrated to the U.S. and became a bookkeeper until his arrest in 1984. In Yugoslavia, Artukovic could face possible execution.

Even though the morality and grossness

of the Nazi's attempted genocide have been repeated and stressed on numerous occasions, I want to stress them again. The brutal cold-hearted murder of 6 million people DID occur and not all their killers have met justice. What is most horrific and shocking about the era was that it happened without interruption for 8 years. The German people, although they can not be held responsible for it, should have had some idea what was going on, but they failed to do anything about it. For a country that produced such intellectual geniuses as Goethe, Nietzsche, and Marx, how could such an inhuman event have occurred? But most of all, can such malice ever happen again?

To the critic: If all you can complain about is my artistic ability, you must lead a very dull life. Have you ever thought about chartered accountancy as a career?

Andrija Artukovic (alias "Butcher of the Balkans")
1900 — Real Soon



... Search

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February 18. On that day he met with members of various campus departments. He is presently working as a market analyst in Washington. Previous to this he was the Dean of Students at the University of Portland ('80 - '83), and the Associate Dean of Students at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute ('75 - '80).

The second candidate to visit the campus is James Tewey. He will be here on February 25. Mr. Tewey is presently the Associate Dean of Students at Smith College. Previous to this he worked in the Office of the Dean of Students at Northeastern University.

Janet Richardson, who is currently

Associate Dean of Students here at WPI, will meet with the various groups on Friday, February 28. Before being promoted, she was the Assistant Dean of Students ('80 - '82), and previous to that she was the Area Coordinator at Penn State ('77 - '80).

The final candidate to visit the campus will be David Thompson, who is currently the Associate Dean of Students at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Before working there, he was a member of the student affairs division at Gettysburg.

After meeting with all four candidates, the committee will make its recommendation to Vice President Brown, who along with President Strauss will make the final decision.

... Trustee

(continued from page 1)

creased by improving and expanding our programs or targeting a larger geographic area. This year, as in the past, 48% of the applicants are from Massachusetts.

Paul Davis, Secretary of the Faculty, brought up the areas of science, humanities, manufacturing and management which could be expanded to attract a wider base of applicants. William Grogan, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, added that many students may not choose WPI because of a misconception that WPI is weak in the non-technical areas and that many students today are looking for a well rounded education.

President Strauss asked Voss what we can do to help attract more of this year's admitted students. Voss replied by describing a program being set up where faculty and students will phone each of these prospective students.

Student Life

The next topic of discussion was student life. Vice President of Student Affairs Bernard Brown noted the difficulty of the previous academic year and said that we were "lucky to have student leaders in key positions" to help guide the transition.

Joe Gammal, Student Body President, talked about recent developments under student government including the establishment of the independent committee, reorganization of the Dormitory Advisory Committee into the Residence Hall Council and the "Leadership WPI" program. He went on to convey the feelings of the student body in regard to the many changes that the institute has recently undergone. "I think there is a feeling of discontent among students", said Gammal. "The school is not what they came here for." He announced that a student goals committee is being established by the Student Academic Committee, made up of student representatives to the faculty committees. The goals committee will allow a broader base of student input regarding the future of the institute. Gammal closed his report by saying, "I think there is still a need for a student center. I think, this may alleviate some of the social problems."

Accreditation

According to Richard Gallagher, Vice President and Dean of Faculty, academic

accreditation is a "closed matter for now." The computer science department is waiting for the results of a recent visit by representatives of their accreditation board. According to Dean Grogan, "They felt we've been understating our resources."

Campus-Wide Computerization

Dean Gallagher spoke on the progress of the Computer Advisory Committee's efforts. A report was recently issued by the committee which suggests requiring incoming freshmen to purchase a computer. This will be up for discussion at an upcoming faculty meeting. According to Gallagher, WPI is at about the 50% mark of the computerization goals (when not considering student ownership of computers).

Faculty Recruiting

Presently, the math and management departments are in an effort to recruit new department heads. The electrical engineering department poses the biggest recruitment problem, with an already high student to faculty ratio and a lack of electrical engineers looking for professorships. Things are looking up, however, as two candidates have been accepted for next year and another two to four more are expected.

In the humanities department, there are two vacancies in history and communications. And in the mechanical engineering department, except for one specialist position, things are "moving along", according to Gallagher.

The chemical engineering department is seeking three new faculty including a national leader in the field.

Fraternity Task Force

The fraternity task force is a committee made up of students, faculty, alumni, parents, and neighbors of the fraternities. The task force has met three times and is drafting an agreement to benefit all parties involved, said William Densmore of the Board of Trustees who chairs the task force.

Inauguration & Financial Aid

Also discussed at the meeting were some possible revisions in the school's policy on issuing financial aid and the planned inauguration of President Strauss. These stories will be covered in detail in future issues of Newspeak.

The Poison Pen

by Jody Bobbitt
Newspeak Staff

On He And She

He thinks her stiff, she thinks him cold
The hands dealt guaranteed to fold
And yet, perhaps, they wonder what
Has pushed the door between them shut

How could a man good-looking hold
So foul a mind, a smile so cold
She wonders how, beneath the fair
Such rancid actions gathered there

He shocks her with his guttered mind
Thinking he is most unkind
Yet she envies him his ease
That he may say whate'er he please

She thinks he surely must have crept
Out of some swampland where he slept
For how else could such horrid things
Spring forth with such well-poisoned stings

She wonders if it would occur
To him to sometime think of her
Just one kind word as friend would win her
But perhaps he's a beginner

Perhaps he never grew beyond
Catching frogs down at the pond
Dipping pigtailed of girls in pink
Into the wells of thick black ink

And yet she hopes someday he'll smile
Speak nicely to her for a while
And yet, just when she thinks he has
He turns around and gives the razz

When will she learn? Or will he see
What she wishes they'd agree
She seems a prude, he seems a louse
Why must they play this cat and mouse?

COMMENTARY

My View from Morgan Fourth

by Joshua Smith
Newspeak Staff

I know a lot of upset freshmen. Without warning, quite a few people were told that it will be difficult for them to graduate in four years. Why? The various departments in this school have gone crazy with distribution requirements. My personal experience is in the Computer Science department, but I know prospective EEs and MEs who are having the same problems.

Years ago, WPI instituted a radical idea: Don't make students take courses they don't need. Unfortunately, this idea was a little too radical for the accreditation boards, so distribution requirements were implemented. The idea was to make the students suffer through a "well-rounded" education, while still taking courses that they themselves chose. It seemed like a good idea; but, alas, I think it gave the individual departments too much power. In "The Prince," Machiavelli points out the importance of keeping all power centralized. If a prince gives independent powers to his subordinates, they will group these various powers and use them to overthrow the very prince responsible for the delegation. In order to successfully delegate powers, the prince needs to keep very tight control over the ways the powers are implemented. Similarly, if an institution decentralizes its power, it will lose consistency and control. Here at WPI, the individual depart-

ments have gone crazy with their newly discovered powers, and the students must suffer for it.

This year's distribution requirements for Computer Science are as follows: 18/3 units in Computer Science, including the MQP; 7/3 units in mathematics; and 5/3 units in Basic Science and/or Engineering Science. In addition, the global requirements of 6/3 units spent on the Sufficiency and 2/3 units devoted to the social sciences must be fulfilled. That totals 37/3 units, roughly the first three years of study. It is unlikely that a student will be prepared to do his IQP after only two Social Science classes, so there goes another unit or so. All in all, there isn't much time for individualism, experimentation, creativity, or any of the original foci of the WPI Plan. I have been told it is preferable for a number of reasons to take the Comp in the middle of the senior year; unless a student overloads, takes an extra term, or comes in with an unusual amount of transfer credit as a freshman, this ideal is well beyond reach. And if you NR more than one class, you might as well sign up for a fifth year.

You may recall that I came out in favor of distribution requirements a while ago, saying that they are a pleasant alternative to the generic education offered at most schools. My friends at Michigan State University needn't declare their major until they are juniors. Until then, they take what they are

told. Well, in light of the new ridiculous requirements being implemented throughout the campus, I think that is exactly what is happening here. Given that I have to have 7/3 units of mathematics, for example, it is likely that I will take Calc I - IV, Diffy Q's, and two classes which are left to my own discretion. But the list of choices is rather short, considering the sequential nature of mathematics courses. I imagine that just about everyone will end up taking the same two courses. It would be unreasonable to think I would take more than those seven, since it is so hard just to fulfill the requirements as they stand.

So what is the difference between WPI and a large university? Well, it certainly has nothing to do with individualism. And the Comp and the MQP aren't that different from the barrier tests and senior thesis required at most schools. On the other hand, the seven week terms are nice (to students anyway — most teachers hate the shorter terms); the Sufficiency still seems to be a good idea; and the IQP is certainly very classy. The old AD, AC, NR grading system was based on a sophisticated plateau of thought that reflected the unusual inventiveness on the part of the originators of the plan. As for the change to A, B, C, NR, all I can say is that I'm pleasantly surprised those who masterminded the change weren't stupid enough to put in D and E to round

out the whole mess into a generic equivalent of the system used everywhere else in our systematically unoriginal world.

Is WPI still worth the trip? Is there still enough different about this school to make it worth the cost? Socially, the campus is dead. Academically, the campus is starting to look like every other college around the world. But I think there is one saving grace. The faculty here really care. They are willing to meet with students on an individual basis to discuss classwork and academic plans. They stretch the little time they have to advise students on Sufficiencies and IQPs. They do well more, I'm sure, than the minimum required of them. The most important element of this and every other school is the faculty. The administration, of course, likes to see people notice its systems, but they really don't matter. I think high quality teaching can survive the administration's stupidity. The only way the administration can really destroy this school is if the students get so sick of the structural perversions that they just stop enrolling — if the administration makes life here so bad, that the teaching quality isn't enough to compensate. Let's hope that doesn't happen: I don't care how big of an endowment this place has — a school without students just isn't a school.

A Serious Look At Kids Today

by James Herard

Did you ever notice how much longer it takes kids to grow up these days? We have taken that responsibility away from them. Basically, kids today are wimps. They lack any real survival skills or practical knowledge, and as they grow up, they are forced to rely on specialists for everything. When these specialists fail to perform to their expectations, they go to another type of specialist, the lawyer, who is gifted in the art of redirecting responsibility.

Toys these days do not come with small parts that kids can choke on . . . you know, the little Fisher Price people's heads you can break off and chew. So you see a lot of older kids and adults choking on things because they didn't learn as kids not to chew on small objects that weren't meant to be chewed on. Good thing there is the Hemlich

maneuver. I don't think it's much fun when you can't pull the eyes out of your teddy bear or cut yourself on the sharp edges of a good old Tonka truck.

Speaking of Tonka trucks, when was the last time you saw one? Maybe when you cleaned the cellar for your father? Kids these days think Tonkas venture too much into the world of realism. Much more preferred gifts are such things like a full figured Princess Frigid Forever doll with optional pin wheel wand, magical leader of the ice people of Nordrum. Or perhaps a GI Toad laser weapon attack system for the boy who has everything. No one even gives kids pocket knives anymore . . . much too violent a gift for a young person, and anyways, who wants to get sued when the kid gets cut trying to chew on it.

Kids today aren't very tough. They used to play with knives and guns and beat up gays. Now they break dance in the street and get AIDS. I'm not sure which is safer.

Kids today can't think for themselves. They have no real feel for the world, and little or no understanding of nature. If you took away their microwave ovens and frozen dinners they'd get very hungry and burn lots of water.

Their naivety is scary. They expect the media to inform them of everything and get the details right. They are used to living in a censored world. We protect them from everything, and when they do something wrong, we turn to our Dr. Spock book and say they will grow out of it. Bull, they won't grow out of anything if you don't show them how.

Naivety is perhaps the wrong word — perhaps cluelessness is better. A girl once asked me if I was Jimi Hendrix. I've lost count on how many tickets I've scalped to the Lynyrd Skynyrd concert . . . I mean, they think LSD is an artificial sweetener.

It's time we put away some of the text books, and get back in touch with the real world. We rely too much on our precious governments and religions to tell us what to do, see, believe, and be. In the event of hard times or a major catastrophe, like McDonald's going out of business, the human race would simply die. Perhaps its time for the world to end, after all, before we hurt each other.

The Body Politic

Politics and the Death of the Plan

by Steven Landry
Newspeak Staff

As a Junior EE, the time has come for me to choose an MQP topic, advisor, and group. The import of accomplishing these tasks quickly was driven home at the Eta Kappa Nu-sponsored EE MQP Informational Seminar. At that seminar, the EE professors who were there stressed the importance of group work and of acting before the end of the term. Little did I know that EE faculty concern over students and MQP's peaked at that point.

During project planning day, each department was to hold MQP topic presentations. Following the schedule of events listed on page three of the "WPI Projects Program," I went to AK219 at 11:00 a.m. to listen to faculty topic presentations, missing an 11:00 Design I lecture as a result. There were twenty or thirty people there, not including professors, because there weren't any professors. We waited twenty minutes, then got up to leave. Professor Looft then walked in. He informed us that there was no presentation; the Eta Kappa Nu seminar had been "great," and that we should have attended that seminar.

Well, needless to say, everyone in the room was upset. Looft, the EE MQP Coordinator, failed to realize a few things. First, most of us had attended the informational seminar; one of the coordinators of that seminar was at this presentation along with the rest of us. Secondly, the EKN seminar was **informational**, this was intended to be **topic** presentations. Thirdly, no announcement had been made that this meeting was cancelled. In fact, we discovered that the only reason Looft had even wasted the energy to walk to AK219 to fill us in on his plans to scrap the presentations was that the EE secretary was being harassed as to where the topic presentations were.

I returned to my room disillusioned. I had

hoped that my mind would be filled with possible MQP topics upon my return; instead I ended up just getting further behind in Design.

Upon my return, I spoke with an ME. He had attended the ME MQP topic presentations, and had come away with a list of FIFTY faculty-conceived topics. As far as I, or any other EE I know, knew, there were only seven faculty proposed EE MQP topics. They were contained in the aforementioned projects program. Four EE professors (of almost thirty) suggested these seven topics.

What connection, you ask, does this lack of imagination and communication among the EE faculty have to do with my title? As a few of us EEs began to discuss this apathy which was being demonstrated by the EE faculty, we recalled President Strauss saying that by stressing research, professors would include students in that research. Somewhere Strauss' logical deduction has come to a screeching halt.

We also noted that the EE department is one of the leaders of the movement to scrap the Plan. The Comp now utilized by the EE department is a farcical interpretation of what Comps were meant to be. I have also heard some EE professors express disdain over the system that the plan has implemented.

Still the connection may seem unclear. Yet if you think of the EE MQP dilemma as non-intentional, but as having side-effects, the connection becomes clear. If the EE department abandons support for MQPs, it will soon become difficult for the MQP to maintain its present form. Note (especially those professors who will be advising my MQP and who will be on my Comp Board) that I am not saying that the EE professors aren't helping junior EEs with their MQPs deliberately.

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. . . Lyman

(continued from page 1)

many others, was torn by student demonstrations against the war in Vietnam."

Dr. Lyman was born in Philadelphia in 1923. He is the son of the late Charles M. Lyman, a 1921 graduate in chemistry from WPI, and Aglae Lyman, who now resides in Palo Alto, California. Charles Lyman, a native of Connecticut, was admitted to the Connecticut Bar in 1929 and was a member of the firm of Bronson, Rice and Lyman. He was active in the Connecticut and American Bar Associations and a life-long supporter of WPI.

After serving with the U.S. Army Air Force for three years during World War II, Dr. Lyman graduated from Swarthmore College in 1947. Later, he earned an M.A. in 1948 and a Ph.D. in 1954 from Harvard University.

In 1953, Lyman joined the history faculty of Washington University in St. Louis as an instructor and was named an assistant professor in 1954. Lyman then accepted a position as associate professor at Stanford University in 1958. A year later, he was named a Guggenheim Fellow.

He became a full professor at Stanford in 1962, associate dean of the School of Humanities and Science in 1964 and vice president and provost in 1967. Three years later, he was appointed president. Upon his departure from Stanford in 1980, Lyman was named Sterling Professor Emeritus of Humanities.

During his academic career, Lyman distinguished himself as an historian. Among his numerous publications are *Major Crises in Western Civilization* (with Lewis W.

Sptiz), published in 1965, and *The First Labour Government*, published in 1957. Lyman was also a special correspondent for *The Economist* between 1953 and 1966.

Currently, Lyman serves on the boards of IBM and the Chase Manhattan Bank and is chairman of the Independent Sector and a director of the Council on Foundations. In 1981, President Reagan named him to a Task Force on Private Sector Initiative, which was to seek ways to replace funds cut from the federal budget with private philanthropy.

He is past director of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and past chairman of the Commission on Humanities and the Association of American Universities. He has also served as a member of the National Council on the Humanities, a trustee of the Carnegie Foundations for the Advancement of Teaching and the editorial board of *Journal of Modern History*.

He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Historical Association, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Conference on British Studies, the Society for the Study of Labor History in London and Phi Beta Kappa. He is also an officer of the Legion d'honneur in France.

Lyman has received honorary degrees from Washington University (1971), Millis College (1972), Swarthmore College (1974), Yale University (1975), the University of Rochester (1975) and Harvard University (1980). He is also an honorary fellow of the London School of Economics and a fellow of the Royal Historical Society.



WINTER WEEKEND '86

... Concert

(continued from page 1)

could manage little more than whistles and stares.

The interplay between performer and crowd built as the show progressed. The Poison Dollys got a few whistles, the Kneetremblers a standing crowd, and the Axis a cheering, clapping mob at stage front. Jon Butcher had the crowd howling like wolves for a moment.

The lighting throughout the whole evening was, at the least, good, and most tastefully done during the set by the Axis. Jon Butcher changed the mood several times, and the lights were instrumental to his success.

SocComm did a good job in picking up the acts, but the publicity didn't draw a large crowd, something that should be worked on for the next event.



This is a Poison Dolly.



A Kneetrembler entertains.

Summertime Comes to WPI

by Jeffrey S. Goldmeer
News Editor

Last Friday night, a little part of summertime came to Harrington Auditorium, for the first part of the 1986 Winter Weekend; the Beach Party.

The event which was sponsored by Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream, Ray Boston, and Soc-Com presented a summer-like atmosphere with two swimming pools, a volleyball court and a "sandy beach."

The party was a slow starter, with most of the crowd arriving after 9:00 p.m. Many people joined the volleyball game which lasted all night, and at times used two balls to add an extra challenge for the players. The real fun started when Ray Boston took his beach chair and began playing his guitar.

He played music that spanned two dec-

ades, while he wasn't changing a guitar string. So, it took him awhile, but he finally got the crowd into the spirit of the festivities. They danced the night away, as Ray awarded t-shirts, and free ice cream coupons to the winners in various contests. Another crowd favorite was the kazoos that were given out at the beginning of the party, which were later used to accompany Ray's singing.

For those who got hungry and thirsty, there was a snack bar, with hot dogs, and soda in official beach party cups. For those who craved ice cream, there was free ice cream that was donated by Ben and Jerry's of Vermont.

As the end neared, the crowd dissipated of its own accord without problem. Overall it was an enjoyable evening for all involved.



Beach bum sucks down some free Ben & Jerry's ice cream.



Ray Boston annoys beach partiers.

SPORTS

Engineers Await Possible Post-Season Prospects

by Peter Yap
Sports Editor

The Engineers have closed out their 1985-1986 regular season in victorious fashion, including a sparkling victory over nationally ranked NYU. For his efforts, John Loonie was named the ECAC Division III North co-Player of the Week. It was the second consecutive week an Engineer was named. The Engineers finished the season 13-9, winning seven of their last nine games.

WPI's final home regular season encounter was with the 3-19 Nichols Bison. WPI jumped to an early lead, as it took Nichols five minutes to score its first points. A crunch defense that clogged up the three-second lane didn't allow the Bison to establish any inside game. WPI had a good variety in their offense with John Loonie in the low post and Bill McCullen launching jumpers, and this variety kept the Nichols defense well spread out on the floor. WPI's domination could be seen in the first half field goal percentages: WPI shot 61.7% in contrast to Nichols' 32.1%. The injury to Nichols' starting shooting guard is well represented in the first-half stats as the Engineers enjoyed a 48-33 lead.

More of the same followed in the second half, a good combination of inside and outside shooting and a stubborn defense by WPI gave them a 62-45 lead midway through the concluding half. As expected Nichols applied their full court press and WPI played right through the Bison defense as they had

throughout the game. The game progressed into garbage time as WPI led 71-56 with 6:10 left and concluded with a 87-60 WPI victory.

The showdown was set, WPI (13-8) vs. Clark (19-4). In their earlier meeting, Clark won convincingly, 92-70. But more recently the Engineers won seven of their last eight games, while Clark had won five of its last nine games.

The Engineers entered in the pro-Clark packed arena and for the second time this season were decisively beaten by Clark. WPI held its only lead very early, 3-0. Clark would come back and hold their lead unrelentingly as the half ended with a 43-28 Clark advantage. Throughout the second half, Clark would hold at least a ten point lead and cruise to a 80-60 victory. The Engineers were led in scoring by McCullen (17 points) and Paul Lubas (15 points). The Engineers completed a successful season, 13-9 and won seven of their last nine.

Notables: For the month of February, the Engineers have a 7-2 record and are awaiting their post-season prospects. . . John Loonie contributed 56 points and grabbed 33 rebounds enroute to being named ECAC Division III North co-Player of the Week.

. . . Senior Chris Whitney played his final regular season game and for the season compiled stats of 3.4 points/game, 1.6 rebounds/game and offered his experience and leadership to this winning team.

WPI Women's Basketballers Hope For a Playoff Bid

by Helen Webb
Newspeak staff

The 70-58 loss to Clark may deny the WPI Women's Basketball team a bid to the ECAC tournament, but according to coach Naomi Graves, an invitation to the state tournament is still very possible. "We have two games left and we hope to finish strong against SMU and Trinity. I'm pleased with our 12-8 record at this point, considering our schedule and the early season losses when Cindy Perkins was injured," said Graves.

The Engineers and Clark started the game by trading baskets until Clark jumped to a 19-13 point lead early in the first half, despite sloppy play by Clark that cost the team a total of 20 turn-overs. WPI was behind by ten at half time, and pulled within five points early in the second half, but as the game wore

on, WPI never challenged Clark. Clark won the game by shooting far more accurately than Tech, making 50% of its field goal attempts as WPI managed only to score 31.5% of the time. High scorer for WPI was Cindy Perkins, with 17 points. Donna Leonard went seven for nine from the floor for 14 points, and Kathy O'Neil contributed 13 points.

Last week it was announced that senior management engineering major Kim Fay has been voted to the GTE/CoSIDA District I College Academic All America Second Team. Fay is a four-year starter and the lead scorer this year, averaging over 20 points a game.

WPI ends its regular season tonight against Trinity at 7:00 p.m. in Harrington Auditorium.



Bill McCullen (30) goes nuts for two.

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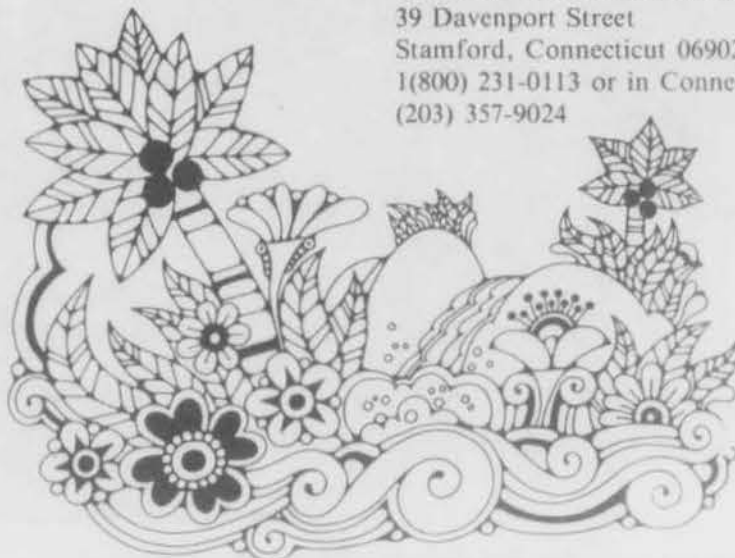
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EE Candidates:

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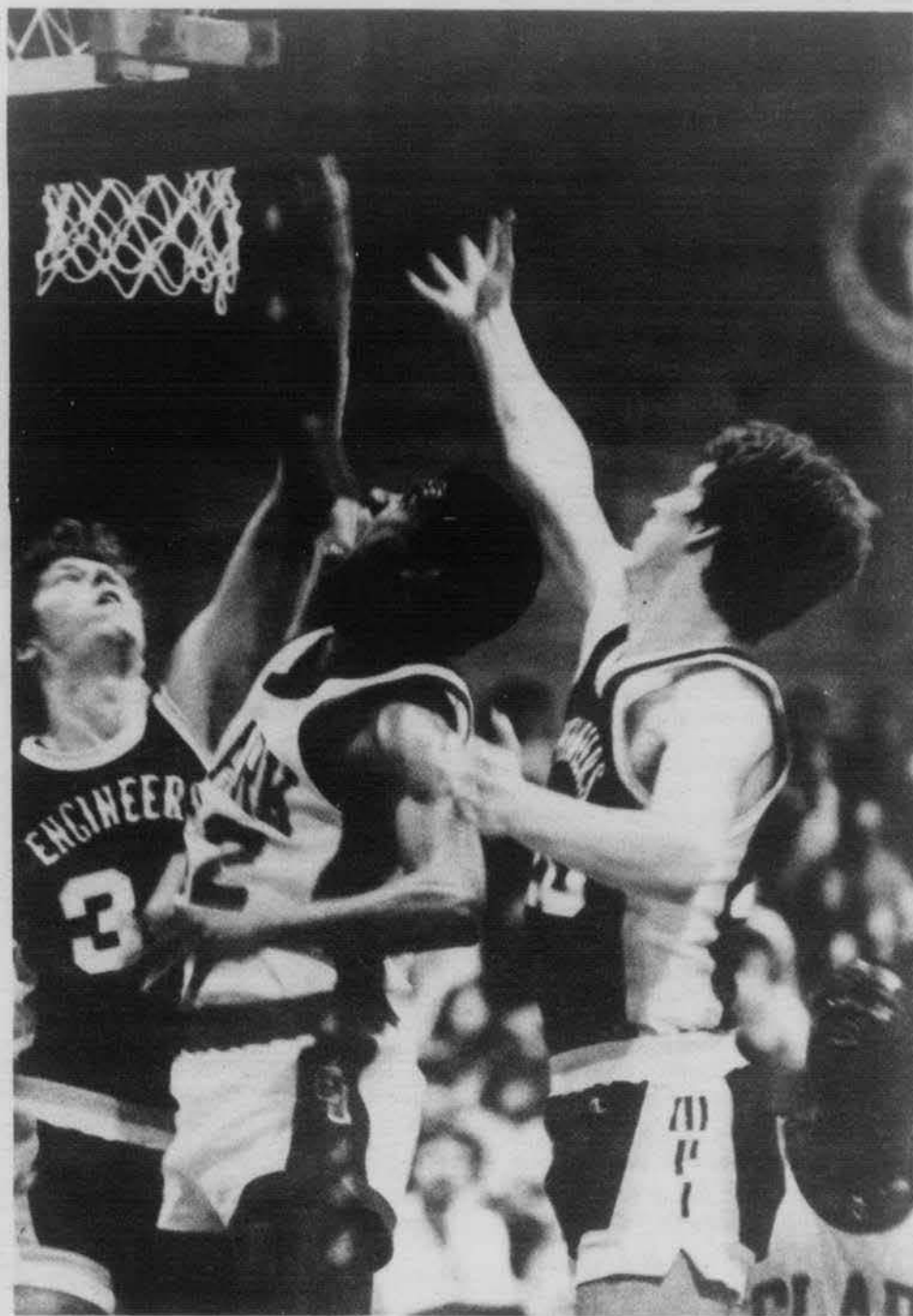
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PSNH



WPI jumps to an early lead against Nichols.



The Engineers don't quite cut the mustard at Clark last Saturday.

What Changes Would You Like To See At WPI?

- Do we need the projects (suff, IQP, MQP)?
- Is the Comp. still necessary?
- Are the class and lab facilities adequate?
- Does the advising system work?
- Are the computing facilities sufficient?
- Should professors engage in more research?
- Does the faculty have adequate teaching skills?

An organizational meeting for the WPI Goals Committee will be held in Higgins Labs 109 Thursday, March 6 4:00 P.M.

WPI Has Three in Nationals

WPI will be sending three wrestlers to the nationals at Trenton State College. WPI finished second to Coast Guard at last weekend's New England College Conference Wrestling Championships.

WPI will be represented in Trenton by

Jason Benoit, Bob Soares, and Nick Triantafell, as they won individual titles at the NECCWC. They were well supported by Don Pagel, Steve Hall, Bob Carroll, Steve Graveline, and Jack Curll.



Worcester's Finest Alternative Rock

Golf Team Holds Organizational Meeting

Anyone wishing to play on the Golf team this spring should attend the organizational meeting Monday, March 3 at 4:15 p.m. Coach Massucco will post where it will be held.

THE SURVIVAL KITS HAVE ARRIVED!!!



Are you full of anxiety and frustrations like this overworked college student? Well now you can relax because the "SURVIVAL KITS" are here! Thanks to the efforts of the Student Alumni Society (SAS) and your parents you might receive one of these surprise packages. They are filled with many energy boosters that are sure to help you through the rest of the term. The fortunate recipients of these "SURVIVAL KITS" will receive notification in their mailboxes early next week.

GREEK CORNER

Alpha Chi Rho

The brothers would like to announce our new officers for the next year, they are:

President: Greg Thomson
Vice-President: Jim Myran
Treasurer: Jeff Graves
Secretary: Aswin Pinsuvana
Ritual Officer: John Siegenthaler
Chaplain: Gary Goodell
Sergeant at Arms: Paul Amons
Member at Large: Denis Nagle
Social Officer: Tom Peterson
Chapter Correspondent: Jim Hannon
House Manager: Jamie Forbes
Steward: Matt Mooney

Congratulations to all the new officers and thanks to all those finishing up their term of service. Start thinking up some jokes for next year's ballot counts guys.

Thanks to all the faculty and staff for showing up for our open house and hope everyone enjoyed themselves. We would especially like to thank Terry and Bob for staying an extra three hours to clean off everything, there is not a drop left in the house.

Our house wetbacks had a good showing at the intramural swim meet. Top wetback was Steve Mann, taking first in two events and that's what it is.

Alpha Gamma Delta

Alpha Gamma Delta would like to once again recognize those sisters with outstanding scholastic records: Nancy Chatis, Meg Fallon, Donna Healy, Wendy Calway, Diane Fiorillo, Laurie Bouchard, Cheryl Haglund, Diane Brissette, Jean Laiosa, Janis Berka, and Caren Sarro. Cheryl, try and up your GPA a little, huh?

Congratulations go also to Jo-Ann Papalardo for her Valentine's Day pinning. Roses to you, Jo-Ann!

Hey, everyone, nice jackets! Good way to show that Alpha Gam spirit!!! "We got psyche . . . we got psyche . . ."

Start preparing now for the second annual "Junior thing," scheduled for the end of this term. Marie and Sue, get your compsites ready; it's your turn next!!!

Phi Gamma Delta

All Phi Gamma Delta functions have been cancelled until Joe Pesticci returns to Fiji for

good. Alex Henrich has volunteered to throw Joe a "welcome back" party, complete with chicks, and a lot of trust in his piston.

Also, Bob O'Masi, "Mr. Clutch," is looking for a few good men to help out in the job hunt. Anyone interested should contact him at Holy Cross, his home away from home.

Hopefully, we'll resume full activities next week with the arrival of Joe and/or Diet Coke and Chocolate Milk.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

The Brothers of SAE are pleased to announce their 1986 house officers:

President, Dave Therrien
Vice President, Chris Alicandro
Treasurer, Steve Bresnahan
House Manager, Chris Savino
Stewart, Bob Billbrough
Public Relations, Paul Hambelton

Congratulations and good luck for the times ahead!

The brothers would also like to congratulate the swim team on their well deserved second place finish in the intramural swim meet. Once again Bob Wojciak lead the team with a first place in the 100 yard freestyle and a close second in the 40 yard freestyle. Also high in the standings were Dave Partridge with a second and a third place finish in the 200 and 100 yard freestyle respectively and Bob McDonough with two third place finishes in the 60 yard breast stroke and 80 yard individual medley races.

Finally the brothers heartily congratulate their cook Bob Powers for taking first place in the 92nd Annual Central Massachusetts Winter Triathlon. Bob commented that he was particularly pleased with his performance in the vertical ice wall scaling event. Good job Bob and let's get the pledges shoveling soon!

Sigma Pi

Thanks to all who participated in the Beach Party slagafest, all apologies to those who waited at the MHC mail. Per usual bad drunks and bad manners were hastily curbed and all codes of chivalry upheld. A new sand removal record was set the morning after (70 min.), responsible members of AA are said to have done this heroic deed.

It seems we've been so nice that a first and third in bowling have graciously fallen upon us, gollee gee wiz. The PI frogmen placed third in the WPI puddle swim meet (OH,

that's a pool!?). Rumor has it that the swim guys ate fish at the beach party. Hoops are on the cruise, achieving victory in playoff #1. Is that the big I.M.T. I see over yonder, grapevine has it that first has recently been seen near Dean St. Wrestling soon!! Break out the Ethiopian handbook.

As far as ham goes, an uprising is being attempted near the kitchen by those murderous rectangular yaks. Remember to carry your ham key with you at all times! (See ARny for spares)

Block's Gym has been found to be responsible for the recent wave of weight crimes. All heavy objects in the house have gotten together and threatened to individually crush brothers unless skim milk is banned. An anonymous fifty has named Bill Martin as the group's first hit.

Nuts and Bolts next week? March 17th is coming soon — green dimension void is high. AA meetings in the penthouse? Publicity Guy wants to know why senior score-board is so low, quave deficiency?

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CLUB CORNER

Wireless Association

On Valentine's Day, the club set up a table in the wedge to collect appropriate messages for the occasion. These messages, each up to 25 words, were relayed to their destination within 36-48 hours, free of charge, by our club operators. This service is provided by the wireless association to all WPI students, faculty, and support staff at noon in the wedge. (Dates to be announced).

A motion has been passed approving the purchase of packet communications equipment, namely the AEA terminal mode controller (TAPR TNC2 clone) and associated hardware. The acquisition of such equipment will put our club at the forefront of current amateur radio technology.

If you are interested in amateur radio or would like a tour of WIYK, contact club box 2393.

What is the Social Committee? What do they do?

by Andy Ferreira
Newspeak staff

You've heard of us, you've been to our events, but do you know what Social Committee really is? Well, to set the record straight, here's exactly what we do.

The structure of SocComm is centered about a number of committees. Each committee is comprised of a group of interested students and is headed by a chairperson. All of these chairpersons report to the Social Committee chairperson (this year we have two co-chairpersons). The individual committees meet about once a week and plan out their activities. There is a general meeting of all SocComm members every other week where there is discussion of upcoming events.

And what are these mysterious committees? Well, here's a brief description of a few: The Pub Committee is responsible for making the pub a useful and relaxing place for students. This is being achieved by improving the Pub atmosphere, renovation, and the scheduling of events that are relevant to our students' needs. For C term, the pub is temporarily closed so that renovations of the food stand can take place. The grand opening of the "new-looking" Pub is scheduled for Thursday, April 3rd. Performing there will be singer/guitarist Paul Strowe.

Not to be confused with the Pub Committee is the Publicity Committee. Basically, the role of the Publicity Committee is to inform people of what is going on. These people include WPI students, other area college students, and the local community. Recently we have tried various methods of advertising other than the simple posters which are often over looked. We are definitely interested in any creative ideas because the success of any event depends closely on how well it is publicized.

Every Sunday night, for only a dollar, you can catch The Reel Thing in Alden Hall. Well, the Films Committee is responsible for the selection and production of the film series. The Films Committee works closely with Lens and Lights in the Reel Thing.

The Coffeehouse Committee organizes the weekly live music shows on campus. Coffeehouses are usually 1 to 2 person acoustic acts where the performers generally play acoustic guitar and sing. The past year we have had such performers as "Hot Acoustics", Michael Jerling, Barry Drake, and Sally Fingerette. We will also, on occasion, have comedy acts. As a committee we are responsible for selecting and booking performers.

The Special Events Committee is the driving force behind SocComm's theme events and contests. In the past, we have put on Best Buns/Best Legs contests, Lip Synch contests,

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Sweet & Sour: A Weekly Record Review The New British Invasion

by Chris Sweet
Newspeak staff

Musically it seems that we are always being overshadowed by artists from Britain. Recently a new wave of bands has hit the American shores with great success. Big Audio Dynamite is one of these bands. They've got a minor hit on their hands with "The Bottom Line" and both their album, *This is Big Audio Dynamite* and their concert tour have the critics across the country raving. This band is luckier than most bands emerging out of England today because B.A.D.'s founder was an integral member of one of England's most popular and influential bands of the late 70's and early 80's. Mick Jones of the Clash started this after he had been thrown out of the Clash two years ago. Jones may have something very big on his

hands also. The album is very appealing and funny. Jones is back writing good, meaningful lyrics. "And when you reach the bottom line, the only thing to do is climb. Pick yourself up off the floor, anything you want is yours." The low point of his career must have been "Should I Stay Or Should I Go?" After that miserable song I would have opted for the latter. There is nothing trite on this album. From the progressive radio staple "Medicine Show" to the very danceable "Sony", from the reggaeish "A Party" to the mainstream "The Bottom Line" the album is great. There are a couple of weak spots, namely the song "BAD", but disregarding a couple of picky things this is a very impressive debut.

For those of you who thought Pink Floyd was dead, well, not quite. In some aspects it is alive and well in a band called The Dream Academy. They've already had a hit with the song called "Life In A Northern Town." David Gilmour of Pink Floyd produced their album and it really shows through on songs like "(Johnny) New Light," "In Places On The Run," and "This World" which could almost be mistaken for Floyd. With the exception of the last song, "One Dream", which fails miserably, the album is stunning. Not all the songs have the same jangly sound of "Life In A Northern Town." "Bound To Be" is a very fast dance song and both "Moving On" and "The Love Parade" are very sentimental love songs.

The next band recently appeared with the last band (The Dream Academy) on Saturday Night Live. The Cult was formed when guitarist Billy Duffy of Theatre of Hate joined up with Southern Death Cult's Ian Astbury to form Death Cult and then just The Cult. The Cult is a mixture of many genres of music which make them appealing to a wide range of metal. They manage to

integrate elements of psychedelia, heavy metal, and punk. Listening to their second album, *Love* is like playing "Name The Musical Influence." The song "The Phoenix" has a blazing wa-wa sound that manages to place itself in the late 60's. The first single of the album, "She Sells Sanctuary," is a dance club smash even though it is an all out hard rocker. The follow-up single, "Rain" is very similar and will likely do the same. As a note of interest, The Cult does not have a permanent drummer so all of the drumming on the album is done by Mark Brzezicki of the band Big Country. The album is one of the few albums that come out and appeal to a very wide audience so I would recommend checking it out.

The final group to be covered is the Cocteau Twins. The Cocteau Twins have been around for many years but only recently have they had an album release on a label in the United States. *The Pink Opaque* is basically a greatest hits compilation of all their European hits that wraps around you and relaxes you. As one person put it, "it's a surreal exploration of yourself." Sure its weird, with songs titled "The Spangle Maker", "Pearly-Dewdrops Drops" and "Millimillenary" but don't tell me you don't feel good after a listening to "Aikea — Guinea." This music just cheers you up and makes you feel happy. I highly recommend this album for listening while relaxing along with their 1985 album *Treasure*, available as an import. A couple of things I would like to mention about this band. The lyrics are basically unintelligible, (purposely), and the only bits easily understood are the titles. Another thing is that this band falls into the Thompson Twins complex of having three people and calling themselves twins. Also, just like the Thompson Twins, there is nobody named Cocteau.

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Newspeak Create A Caption



Newspeak invites you to create a caption for this photograph. Send entries to Create A Caption, Box 2700.

Create A Caption Results



Last week's Create A Caption picture elicited many responses from the campus. The top six captions selected are:

1. Wonder where your \$ is being invested; introducing Daka's new food processor.
— Morgan 3rd Musicians
2. Manute Bol's view of the bowl. Do you think he wets the seat often?
— Don Kane
3. The search for the missing WPI Social life reached a dead end when officials, attempting to follow the trail, were led to this porcelain monument. It is believed that the WPI social life escaped through the small hole inside the monument in order to rejoin its former comrade — the WPI Plan.
— Anonymous
4. In an effort to eliminate graffiti on bathroom walls, WPI Police have installed video monitors in every stall. So beware, you are being watched.
— Ted Brown
5. The cozy atmosphere of our single rooms more than compensates for their higher rates.
Office of Residential Life
— Professor L. H. Berka
6. Due to the lack of funds, the swim team has had to use the smaller facility shown above. They will resume practicing in the pool when the football field is paid for.
— Ted Brown

... Plan

(continued from page 4)

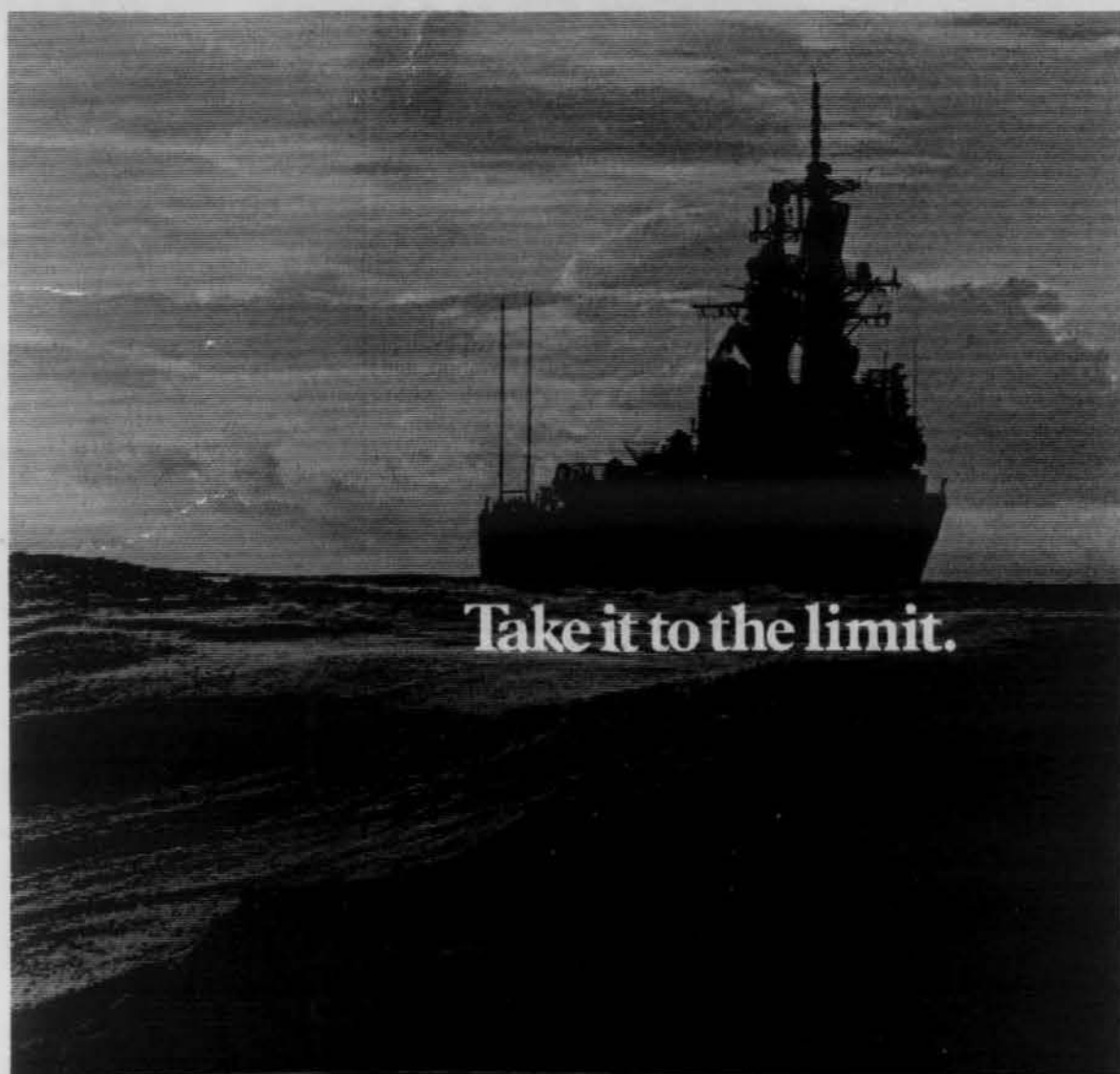
only that if there aren't enough faculty-proposed ideas, the MQP will most likely need changing.

This is yet another factor in the political battle here at WPI which will be won out eventually by those who would destroy the Plan. The stalwarts of the Plan have either retired, or plan to retire soon (such as Prof. Boyd and Dean VanAlstyne). Subtle shots to the educational structure at WPI, such as the elimination of AD/AC/NR, the distribution requirements, the new football field (we gained prestige but lost a lot of cash which could have been used academically), and President Strauss' mandates stressing research by professors will not have to be so subtle. I am glad I will have graduated before this school becomes another engineer factory, pumping out pencil, paper, and calculator whizzes.

It seems the one factor left out of each of these decisions is what it will do to the quality of education here at WPI. Each decision was motivated by the concern for "reputation," with we, the present students, not being considered in the process. That's what the Plan was all about. Politics is dirty even at this level.



MEETINGS FRIDAY
NOON IN RILEY 01



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Cyganski, Orr Make Advancements In Robot Vision System

AT&T Donates Over \$200,000 to Effort

by Michael Dorsey
WPI News Services Director

A recently published scientific advance and a donation of more than \$200,000 in advanced computers by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) are setting an active pace for research in robotic vision at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Electrical Engineering Professors David Cyganski and John A. Orr, recently published the results of three years research on an important area of robot vision in a journal of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE).

In the publication, the two described how they applied an advanced mathematical method to a problem which had previously consumed hours of computer time. With their approach, the problem can be solved in just one second, according to Cyganski.

On the heels of that publication, Cyganski and Orr have received six advanced minicomputers, graphics workstations, terminal and Unix software from AT&T to continue and greatly augment their work. AT&T's University Computer Donation Program also provided WPI with three personal computers for use in research and student project work. The total value of the contribution was \$223,250, according to Richard P. Noonan, head of the AT&T program.

The problem that Cyganski and Orr have devoted their work to is how to get a robot to recognize an object, no matter how it happens to be oriented. Some solutions to this problem have involved having a computer

take an image of an object and step it through a long series of rotations, checking all the while to see if the rotated object looks like the object in the robot's field of view.

Cyganski and Orr instead used a mathematical method known as tensor analysis, a procedure used by Einstein to develop his theories of relativity. Using tensor analysis, the computer takes an image of an object and transforms it into what is known as a normalized image. It turns out, according to Cyganski, that no matter how the object is facing, it has the same normalized image.

To recognize an object with the Cyganski/Orr technique, the computer normalizes the image of an object in its field of view and compares this transformed image to previously normalized images in its memory. When it gets a match, it has found the object it is looking for.

All this can be done in just one second, Cyganski said.

Armed with a new generation of AT&T computers, which will replace older machines in two existing image processing laboratories, Cyganski will further refine and improve their method, applying it to more complicated objects and more complicated visual problems.

The two will also apply parallel processing to their work. Parallel processing involves putting two or more computers to work on the same problem, with each handling a part of the task. Parallel processing could allow robots to solve even complex visual problems quickly, Cyganski said.

Lambda Chi Alpha Donates \$500.00 to the Heart Association

—Jailbirds Free!

On Wednesday, February 12, six members of the WPI Community were "jailed" at the Worcester Galleria for the American Heart Association's Jail Bail on Educator's Day. Bail was set at \$500.00 to free Bob Voss, Bill Trask, Judy McGuire Robinson, Dixie Reynolds, Janet Begin Richardson, and Terry Pellerin. The WPI Community distinguished itself. Close to \$600.00 was raised before the jailbirds were even behind bars. In addition, WPI raised over \$1700 of the day's total of \$5000! Special recognition

needs to be given to the members of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity who presented the Heart Association with a check for \$500.00 to free the WPI Jailbirds. Dave Bernier, Larry LaFreniere and Jim Doran represented LCA at the Worcester Galleria while presenting the check.

Most Worcester Area Colleges participated in this fundraiser. All contributions will be put towards research and community programs by the Heart Association.



Terry Pellerin and co-convict stand behind bars.

W.M. Keck Foundation Grants \$95,000 to Biomedical Engineering Program

Worcester Polytechnic Institute has received a grant of \$95,000 from the W.M. Keck Foundation of Los Angeles to aid in the establishment of a new WPI Biomedical Sensors Laboratory on the campus.

The W.M. Keck Foundation was established in 1954 by the late William M. Keck, founder of The Superior Oil Company. The Foundation's primary focus is on universities and colleges throughout the United States, with particular emphasis in the fields of science, engineering, and medical research. WPI's grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation will provide significant start-up funding for this laboratory, which will provide facilities for research and training.

"Professors Robert A. Peura and Yitzhak Mendelson in WPI's Biomedical Engineering Program are working on exciting and pioneering developments in non-invasive biomedical sensors," according to Dr. Jon Strauss, WPI president. "Non-invasive sensors are information-gathering devices which are placed on the skin surface, rather than inside the body. They provide physicians with immediate information on vital body functions. And, because they're non-invasive, they cause little risk or discomfort to the patient."

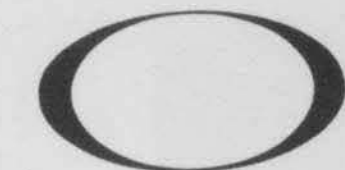
"WPI is establishing this laboratory, complete with equipment facilities, and human resources (graduate and post-doctoral fellowships), in order to provide opportunity for research on new non-invasive sensors and to train future generations of researchers and biomedical engineers," continued Dr. Strauss. Biomedical sensor research by WPI faculty has already led to the development of an improved non-invasive sensor which measures the amount of oxygen in the blood. Future research, building on this development, includes the design of a non-invasive sensor to measure the amount of glucose in the blood.

"Biomedical engineering research, including sensor research, has been pursued in joint projects between WPI and the Department of Surgery and Anesthesia at the University of Massachusetts Medical School for over ten years," stated Dr. Peura, Biomedical Engineering Program Director. "We are certainly fortunate to have this strong clinical research component in our research investigations, aiding us in the past and future development of non-invasive techniques for measuring important physiological parameters."

WPI's Biomedical Engineering Program currently enrolls more than 40 graduate students pursuing MS or PhD degrees, and the program involves approximately 60 WPI undergraduates in their project requirements for a bachelors degree. Both undergraduates

and graduate students in the program pursue project or thesis work at Worcester's St. Vincent Hospital, New England's third largest teaching hospital, at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, or in Salisbury Laboratories on the campus.

Renovation of the laboratory space will begin early in 1986; WPI expects the laboratory to be operational at the beginning of the 1986-87 academic year.



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Newspeak will run classifieds free for all WPI students, faculty and staff. Free classifieds are limited to six (6) lines. In addition, advertisements which are related to commercial business or off-campus concerns will not be free. Ads longer than six lines, as well as commercial and off-campus ads, must be paid for at the (off-campus) rate of \$.37 (37 cents) per line.

No information which, in the opinion of the Newspeak editors, would identify an individual to the community at large will be printed in a personal ad. The editors reserve the right to refuse an ad if it is deemed to be in bad taste, or if there are many ads from one group or individual or on one subject.

The deadline for classified ads is noon on the Friday preceding publication. All advertisements must be on individual sheets of paper and must be accompanied by the writer's name, address and phone number for verification.

Name _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

AD TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Allow only 30 characters per line.

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\$200 RETAIL VALUE — 4 CASES OF SHAMPOO, Head & Shoulders — FIRST OFFER TAKES IT AWAY!!! 756-4185, Mike.

YOUNG TRAVELLERS NEWSLETTER! Includes: 800 no.; travel partner service; features an exotic OVERSEAS budget travel, work, study! Send check (\$12/yr.) to: Y.T.N., P.O. Box 3887, New Haven, Ct. 06525

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To the most gorgeous you-know-what on campus: Will you go to S.D.D. with me? Your true love, B.R.O.O.S.

SENIORS — OPEN MEETING: JOB MARKET, THURSDAY, FEB 27, 12-1, NEWELL HALL, A.K.116 BILL TRASK, OGCP

Laverne,
Did you forget something again?
Love,
Squigy

Hey Butch!
Necks are on sale down at SPAG's. Want me to pick one up for you?
Sundance

Hey Curlytop!
Can I see an I.D. please?

D P H I E — Way to go out with a bang! We finally won a game!!

NANDO . . . NANDO . . . NANDO (MAN) . . .

Donny-doo,
My eyes may be blinded by love but, yes, I do believe I am your one and only. It was proven when you flew down the street, got down on one knee, and toured the ladies restroom. Our love will truly be restored with our trip to Florida. (No Grinding Necessary) I do so hope I'm doing the right thing.

Puke-y Puke-y Puke-y!

You're a What, Cleo, a "Windmill?" Well, maybe an "Airhead!"

Shirly,
You make a great angel.

Love,
Squigy

What ever happened to Alan Ditmore? Did the fraternities offer him a deal he couldn't refuse?

Need a party band? Go to Farnum Street. (Guaranteed good mix)

Andy —
That's not the way you sit in a chair!

Di — Let me take 'em all on! So what if I'm only as tall as his chest!!

Does a frontal lobotomy really get rid of the sappy part?

OH NO, NOT AGAIN! pitter pat, splat.

GYM WORK STUDY SIGN YOUR TIME CARDS BY THIS FRI. FEBRUARY 28.
Coach Massucco

Hey Scott —
Spill anything on Per lately? How can anyone sleep on a stereo.

You know who you are. Every time you 'DEL ENT' my heart skips a beat. Oh JMT — I love you!

With all my love,
NANDO-MAN

Now that you know my top 3, here are yours: C.Spree, Creepy F, and last, but not least, Herb.

MC — Happy Birthday! Have one on me!

I couldn't sleep, someone kept puking and Cleo was snoring!

Was he laughing? talking? smiling? yes? He was Smashed!

Are the Germs getting you down, My Dear? And what ABOUT Danish butter, anyway . . .

Yo Scott Babe — It's morning, get up off the bar!

Yo Palle Babe — Find that Blonde yet? (or was she one of the other three?) I want my handbook back.

Cheryl — When you least expect it . . . EXPECT IT!

Love your roomies

I know you're Laura and I know this is a stereo, but I don't know what anything else is and it's all spinning around!

Hey Per — What does DJ mean? if you were French, you'd be Pierre!

Wendy . . . on the bus? . . . no she's "preoccupied"!!!

No, he IS drunk, he always looks like The Terminator.

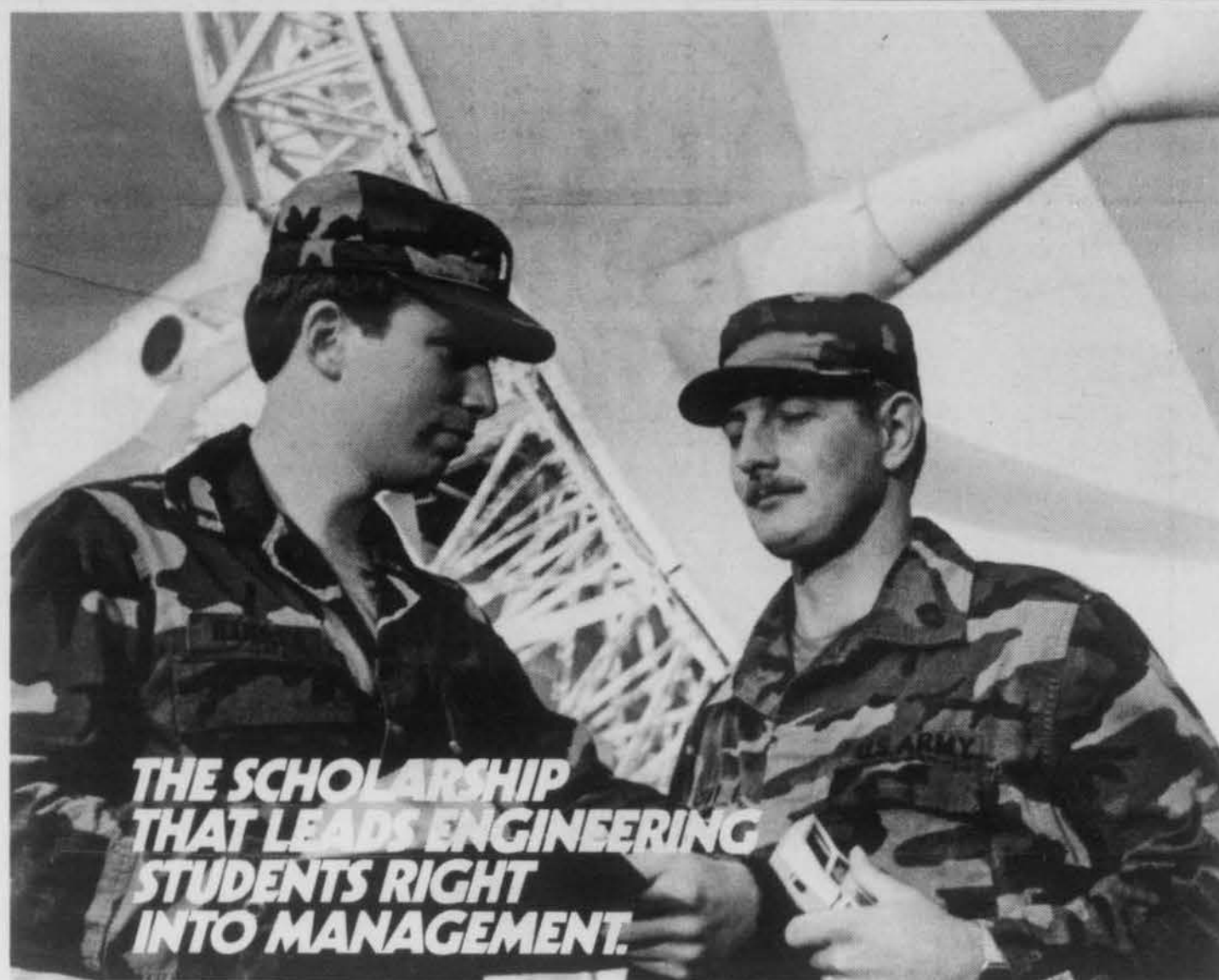
Hi Grammy!

. . . Social

(continued from page 8)

and the highly successful Battle of the Bands. Often these events are put on in conjunction with other campus organizations. We welcome any of your ideas or comments for more special events.

So that is a brief description of most of the committees that comprise the Social Committee. To join any of these committees, come to the general Social Committee meetings and speak with the chairman of a committee you are interested in. Everyone is welcome to these meetings which are held every other Monday at 4pm in Salisbury Labs, 105. The next general meeting of SocComm is March 10th, so make a note of it.



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Massachusetts Lemon Aid Law For Used Cars Has Weaknesses

by Charles Simmons and John Fedus

The Lemon Aid Law plus a number of other laws are the attempt of the government to better protect the consumer when buying a used car. The Lemon Aid Law is designed to help the consumer get a refund for the "lemon" he just recently bought. To get a refund the consumer must follow certain guidelines and hopefully the person you bought the car from will give you the money back. The process for this takes time and patience. The warranty expressed by the law is for the most part too generic. It gives the same warranty for a car that is ten years old and worth \$200 as for a car that is one year old and worth \$10,000. An attempt is being made right now to alter the law and give it the ability to better protect consumers who buy used cars.

The law as it stands right now applies to both dealers as well as private parties. If you buy a car from a person, it is protected by an implied warranty which says that the car must be fit to be driven safely on the roads and must remain in good condition for a reasonable length of time. This is not part of the Lemon Aid Law. All used cars must also have a sticker in the window telling you of the implied warranty plus any other warranties the dealer may give you. A dealer must display your a refund, granted by the Lemon Aid Law, in the left front window of the car delivered to you. He must also disclose on the sales contract if the car was a police car, taxi cab, rental, demonstrator or declared a total loss by an insurance company. Also under Massachusetts Law there is no such thing as an "as is" sale, "with all faults," or "50/50 warranty."

If you do buy a used car, there are certain procedures you must go through to get your car "on the road." First register the vehicle as soon as possible. Next get the car inspected. Under the Massachusetts Law, inspection stickers are not transferable. Do not get the car inspected by the dealer due to the fact that he will be biased. If the car fails to pass inspection and the estimated cost of repairing the defects to pass the inspection or safety test is more than 10% of the purchase price, you have the right to a refund. It is very important to note that you only have seven days from the date of sale to get the car inspected. The consumer at this point also has the option to allow the seller to repair the car. The buyer is still bound by the time limits though.

There are certain steps a buyer must follow under the law to get his money back. He first must tell the seller that he wishes to void the contract under the Lemon Aid Law. This can be done by certified mail. He must also send copies of a written statement signed by an authorized agent of the inspection station stating why the vehicle failed and how much it would cost to fix the problems. The consumer must then deliver the car to the dealer any way he can. This must be done or you won't get a refund. It is suggested you take a witness with you to prove that you delivered the car and if the seller refuses to give you a refund this witness can be very helpful to you. The consumer has only ten days from the date of sale to do all this.

By law, the seller must give you a full refund of the purchase price, but refund of sales-taxes and other fees requires another procedure. The consumer can apply for a sales tax abatement plus a registration and title fee rebate. According to a Massachusetts Registry spokesperson, it can take up to three months or longer to get your money back.

It seems obvious this can be quite tedious when all you originally wanted to do was buy a used car and you're now stuck with a lemon. It is also ironic that the seller does not have to give you your money back because under the law there is no body of enforcement or punishment. The only recourse would be court.

The law is obviously flawed. It does not do what it is set out to do. There is an ongoing attempt to change the law. A new amendment has been written up to help make the law stronger and create more specific warranties.

Under the proposal, no car can be sold in the Commonwealth without being accompanied by an express written warranty. The warranties are based on mileage:

(1) A used car with less than 25,000 miles is warrantied for 120 days or 5,000 miles, whichever comes first.

(2) A used car with mileage between 25,000 and 50,000 miles is warrantied for 90 days or 3,750 miles, whichever comes first.

(3) A used car with mileage between 50,000 and 75,000 miles is warrantied for 60 days or 2,500 miles, whichever comes first.

(4) A used car with mileage over 75,000 miles is warrantied for 30 days or 1,250 miles, whichever comes first. If the seller fixes the car, the warranty is extended 30 days.

There is also a section that uses the age of the car for the warranties if the true mileage is unknown. If the car is 3 years old or less, section 1 applies. If the car is between 3 and 5 years old, section 2 applies. If the car is between 5 and 7 years old, section 3 applies. If the car is older than 7 years, section 4 applies.

If the seller refuses to take care of the problem, i.e. refund or repair, the consumer can go to court and receive double damages. The seller must refund the purchase price plus pay for any other costs such as sales tax, etc. The Attorney General will have the authority to promulgate regulations to carry out the purposes of this act.

The changes cause the sellers to be fearful. If they do not follow the law there might be serious consequences for them. Will the changes come about? Only the legislators in Boston can decide this. But for now, I must give the same advice that I gave for buying a new car . . . let the buyer beware.

. . . Greek

(continued from page 8)

Zeta Psi

Zeta Psi would like to congratulate our five new brothers, Mike K. Burdick, William C. Miller, F. David Rothkopf, Mike S. Skolones, and Matthew R. Supernor, all of whom were initiated this past weekend. Great work guys!! You really impressed us.

Now that all of our pledges are now brothers, we can finally release the final 1986 officer's list:

President — Joseph M. DeVito

What's Happening

Tuesday, February 25, 1986 — Scheduling Day

6:30-8:30 p.m. - Student Counseling Center Seminar, "Managing Stress," Part 1 (re-scheduled), Alden Hall Alumni Conference Room
7:00 p.m. - WPI Women's Basketball vs. Trinity College, Harrington Auditorium

Sunday, March 2

6:30 and 9:30 p.m. - The Reel Thing, "Rocky Horror Picture Show," Harrington Auditorium, \$1.00

Monday, March 3

8:00 p.m. - Spectrum Fine Arts Series presents "The Clown Conspiracy" - Mime, Alden Hall

Tuesday, March 4

7:30 p.m. - Cinematech Film Series presents "A Sunday in the Country," Alden Hall

Events Off-Campus

March 1 & 2 - 1986 Lawn and Garden Expo and Worcester Country Horticultural Society's Spring Flower Show, Sat. 10am - 9pm, Sun. 11am - 5pm, Admission \$5.00

Exhibits

Worcester Art Museum - "Photographers of the Weimar Republic," Museum hours, Tues - Fri 10am - 4pm, Sat. 10am - 5pm, Sun. 1 - 5pm, Admission Free

Antiquarian Society - "The Cook's Oracle: American Cookbooks, 1742 - 1875," Society hours, Mon - Fri, 9am - 5pm, Admission Free

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and Steven Burgess

Social Chairmen — Bradley G. Epranian

and Steven Burgess

Steward — Jeffrey T. Broggaard

IFC Representative — Eduards E. Blaus

We congratulate these brothers and wish them the best of luck in the coming year's activities.

Of course, we cannot go without expressing our great thanks to the University of Toronto chapter of Zeta Psi. No fewer than ten brothers trekked (trucked?!) up there last weekend for the Leadership Training Institute. The stories are still being told . . . The slogan of the LTI was definitely something to be expected from that particular chapter! Thanks guys!

Once again, congratulations to our new brothers — and great job on your Inspiration Week accomplishments.

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

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